

HOW-NE-CON

NEWSLETTER VOL. 17



CITIZEN BAND OF POTAWATOMI INDIANS

ROUTE 5, BOX 151 — SHAWNEE, OKLAHOMA 74801

SEPTEMBER, 1977

Tribal Administration

An open Business Committee meeting will be held Saturday, September 24, 1977, at 10:00 a.m. Some of the items to be discussed are: the Community Development Center, the status of the Alloy Plant, and the audit requested by the Business Committee.

Arts and Crafts

The Arts and Crafts classes are meeting on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday evenings from 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Classes are held in the Community House. Individuals interested in participating may enroll by calling the tribal office or Buck Tasier. We welcome any individual in the Shawnee community. One of the new crafts being taught is Indian costume and headdress design. If enough interest is expressed silversmithing will be offered.

Bruno-Rhodd Family Reunion

JOHN BAPTISTE BRUNO - MARY RHODD descendants interested in scheduling a family reunion during the weekend of the 24th of September Potawatomi Open Business Committee meeting should contact Naomi Pensoneau Baptiste, Route 3, Shawnee, Oklahoma, 74801, or call (405) 275-1483.

Library and Museum

A small reference library has been catalogued at the tribal offices. Members are invited to come in and read up on their tribe's history. The material on the shelves is only the beginning of what we hope will become an active research source. We are increasing our stock, but prohibitive publication costs make progress slower than we like. There are a great many volumes, some out of print, written on Potawatomi history, and we would like copies of all this material for our library.

Efforts are still being made to stock the Potawatomi Museum with artifacts of interest to tribal members. All members are asked to help in this area. Please, let us hear from you.

The 1977 Potawatomi Pageant that was presented in June rekindled interest in what appeared to be a dying culture. Many of our young tribal members were educated in customs and traditions of our ancestors, and it is the responsibility of the older tribal members to see that this interest is kept alive, or we will become as the Myans, a lost civilization. Please contact us at the tribal office if you can help.

Community Health Program and Operation and Maintenance Program

The Potawatomi CHR Program has added two Community Health Representatives to its staff. They are Thelma Bateman, Konawa, and Carol White, Shawnee. Carol has completed her "Basic Training" in Albuquerque, New Mexico, and plans are to get Thelma through her "Basic Training" Course soon. The CHR senior staff is made up of Wanita Clifford, Lillian Lang, and Jo Nell Negahnquet, CHR Director.

David Pecore and Darrel Yott are new additions to the Operation and Maintenance Program. Their vital services are available to tribal members, and we want to welcome them.

All Potawatomi tribal members who have rural addresses, and live in the central Oklahoma area, are asked to submit their finding addresses to the CHR Office so that the CHRs can make home visits and acquaint them with their tribal programs.

If you have any questions regarding the CHR or Operation and Maintenance Programs, please write or call the Potawatomi Tribal Office, (405) 275-3125. Better yet, drop by the tribal office, south of Shawnee, and meet the entire staff.

Address Change

Since we are anticipating a claim payment within the next 6 months be sure your correct address is on the tribal rolls. Those of you who have made changes in your address within the past few months may not have a correct address shown on this publication. Labels for newsletters are ordered in advance and all the corrections made lately may not have cleared the computer prior to ordering labels for this mailing.

Citizen Band of Potawatomi
Indians of Oklahoma

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SHAWNEE, OKLAHOMA 74801

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Potawatomi Indian Action Team

Indian unemployment in the Shawnee Bureau of Indian Affairs jurisdictional area is 19.8%, according to a March, 1976 survey, and the Potawatomi tribal population constitutes a large percentage of this figure.

Businesses and industries in the Shawnee area state that they cannot find qualified labor to meet the demands of the rapid industrial growth in the area.

The Potawatomi Indian Action Team Program has taken steps to remedy both the unemployment and labor market problems by providing vocational training and on-the-job experience needed by tribal members and other enrolled Indian people interested in the program.

With Gordon Cooper Vocational Technical Training School, an accredited vocational-technical school in Shawnee, the Citizen Band Potawatomi has created vo-tech classes designed to meet objectives in training personnel for local industry.

The first class to complete the course graduated August 9, following 12 weeks of classroom work, learning the operation of power equipment, and 16 weeks in actual job experience. The group completed work on 5 homes in the service area, and glowing reports have come back to the tribal office on the performances of these men, and the quality of work that they completed.

Seven Production Machine Operators were training in the techniques of Lathe operation. Three weeks prior to graduation, local industry put the entire class on permanent payroll. All tribal members or other enrolled Indian persons qualify for this training if they are presently unemployed. Those interested should contact the Potawatomi Tribal Office, and speak with Mr. Wayne Costiloe.

Community Development Center

We will begin construction on the Community Development Center before December 2, 1977. The Center will house a council room, administrative offices, and a day care center. The new council room will be almost twice as large as our present council room and the day care facilities will provide space to accomodate 60 children.

Day Care Center

The Day Care Center was informed August 29, 1977, that the proposal submitted for the 1978 fiscal year was not funded. Federal funding from HEW ended August 31, 1977. The Day Care Center closed for 2 days to reorganize and opened September 6, 1977, as an independent Day Care Center serving the Shawnee area. The Center will remain in the same location (510 West Benedict) and operation will continue as usual, except the program will be run on paying basis. Our rates are figured on income level and are as follows: families making between \$7,200.00 and \$13,000.00 a year will pay \$20.00 a week per child and those families making above \$13,000.00 a year will pay \$30.00 a week per child. Those families whose income is below \$7,200.00 a year are eligible for Day Care Assistance through the State Welfare Department and are encouraged to apply.

If you would like more information about the program call 273-5882. Any tribal member interested in visiting the Center may feel free to drop in at any time.

Presently the Day Care Center is operating on a limited budget and we are in hopes we can find funding to enable us to continue this program. The office staff has volunteered to have a bake sale during the Open Business Committee Meeting to raise some funds to donate to the Center. Any donations from tribal members for this program would be greatly appreciated.